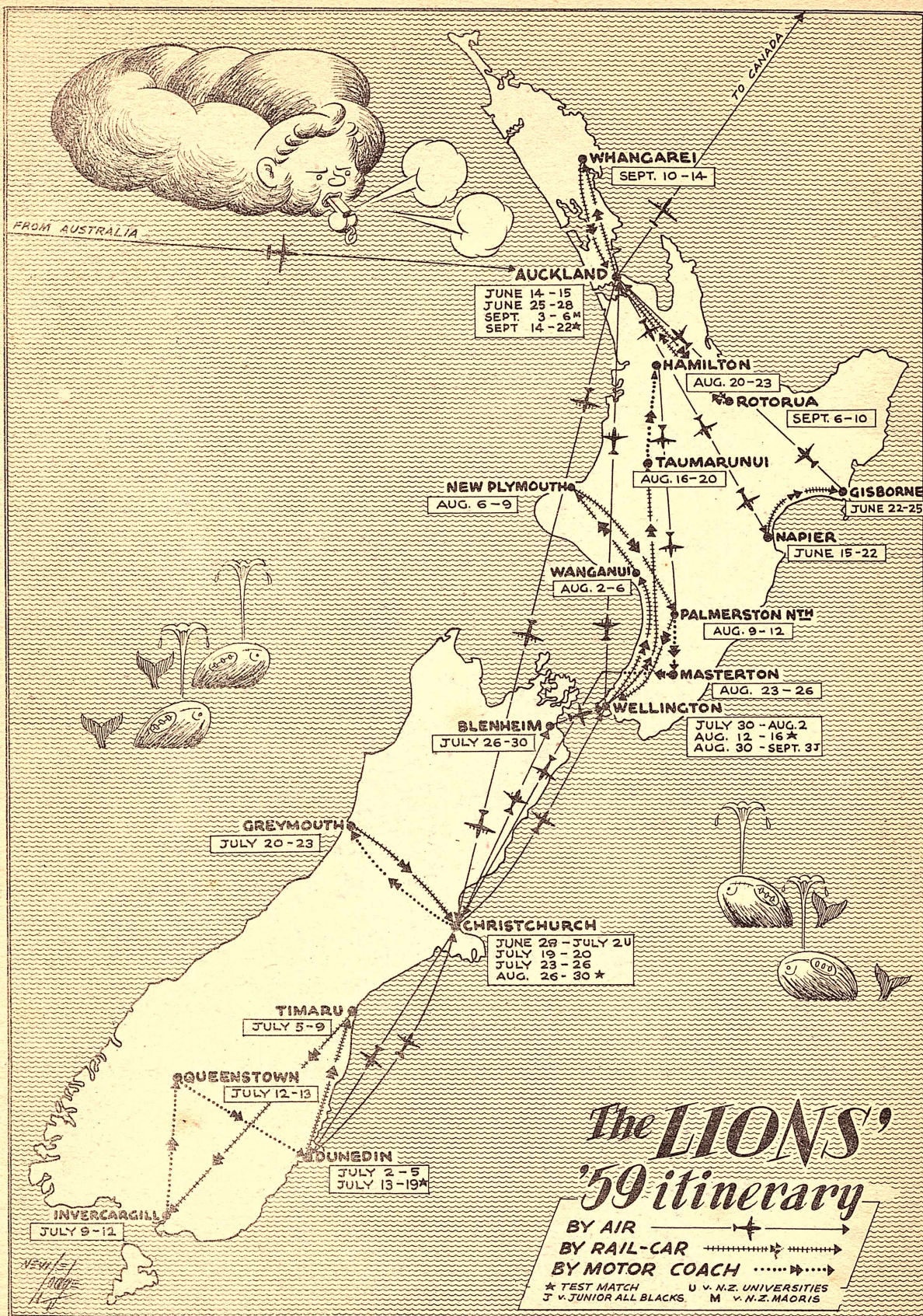


70 Chapter
4/1

LODGE LAUGHS at

THE
LION'S
TOUR





LODGE LAUGHS AT THE LIONS' TOUR

Cartoons and comments

by

NEVILE LODGE



WELLINGTON

A. H. & A. W. REED

First published 1959

A. H. & A. W. REED

Publishers of New Zealand Books

182 Wakefield Street Wellington

FOREWORD

From inquiries received long before the Lions' Tour commenced, I realised that a book similar to *Lodge Laughs at the Springbok Tour* was expected. Assuming that the inquirers intended to buy copies not only for themselves, *but also for their many friends*, I decided to undertake it.

But, even with the experience of the Springbok book to go by, it was not easy.

The cartoons on all the matches were done in advance and unfortunately do not always represent the true course the games took—more especially the first two tests (who could have foreseen a victory by kicks alone, or by a last-minute try?), but for this I do not blame myself, but the unco-operativeness of our players in not performing the way I predicted.

They did make things difficult.

However, the cartoons do show who won and after all, for a record, the result is the thing.

Once again I have done two special cartoons for the book to cover certain aspects of the tour, but the rest have all been culled from the papers in which they first appeared, the *Evening Post*, *Sports Post*, the *Free Lance* and *Truth* and also one from the National Film Unit.

As with the book on the Springbok Tour, team names and the match record have been included for good measure.

So now I lay it before you with the fond hope that enough of you will buy it to enable me to accompany the 1960 All Blacks to South Africa that I may continue the saga.

★

Printed by

Wright & Carman Ltd., Wellington

THE 1959 LIONS

Full-backs: T. J. Davies, K. J. F. Scotland.

Wing-threequarters: P. B. Jackson, J. R. C. Young, N. H. Brophy, A. J. F. O'Reilly.

Centre-threequarters: M. J. Price, D. Hewitt, J. Butterfield, M. C. Thomas, W. M. Patterson.

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Scrum-halves: R. E. G. Jeeps, S. Coughtrie, A. A. Mulligan.

Forwards: T. R. Prosser, H. F. McLeod, S. Millar, B. G. M. Wood, A. R. Dawson (Captain), B. V. Meredith, R. H. Williams, W. R. Evans, W. A. Mulcahy, R. W. D. Marques, A. Ashcroft, J. Faull, N. A. A. Murphy, H. J. Morgan, G. K. Smith.

Manager: Mr A. W. Wilson.

Secretary: Mr O. B. Glasgow.

THEIR MATCH RECORD

In AUSTRALIA

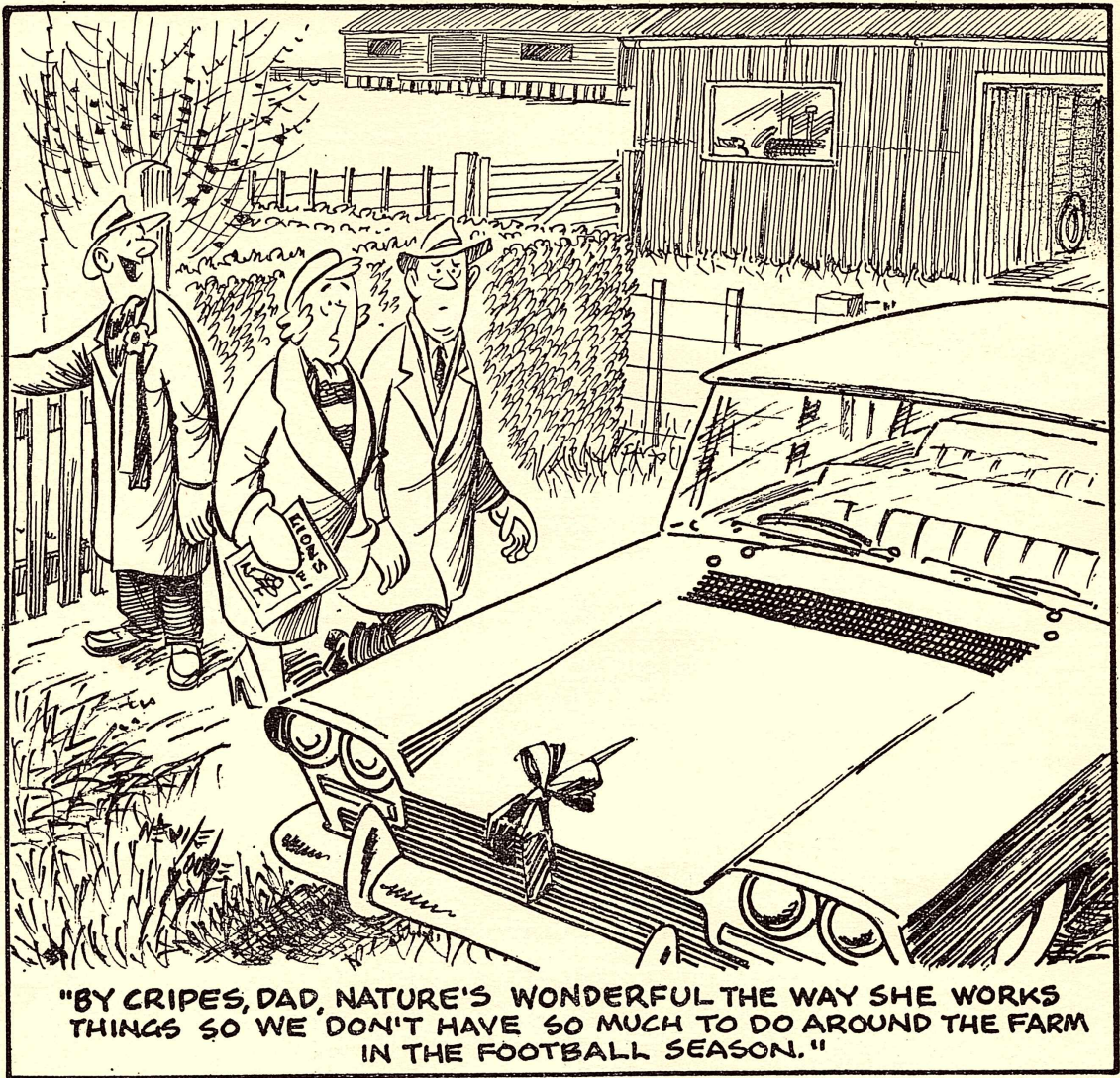
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Fixtures</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Agst.</i>
1.	May 23	Victoria	53 —	18
2.	May 30	New South Wales	14 —	18
3.	June 2	Queensland	39 —	11
4.	June 6	AUSTRALIA	17 —	6
5.	June 9	New South Wales Country	27 —	14
6.	June 13	AUSTRALIA	24 —	3

Won 5, lost 1.

In NEW ZEALAND

1.	June 20	Hawke's Bay	52 —	12
2.	June 24	Poverty Bay - East Coast	23 —	14
3.	June 27	Auckland	15 —	10
4.	July 1	New Zealand Universities	25 —	13
5.	July 4	Otago	8 —	26
6.	July 8	South Canterbury - North Otago - Mid-Canterbury	21 —	11
7.	July 11	Southland	11 —	6
8.	July 18	FIRST TEST	17 —	18
9.	July 22	West Coast - Buller	58 —	3
10.	July 25	Canterbury	14 —	20
11.	July 29	Marlborough - Golden Bay - Nelson - Motueka	64 —	5
12.	Aug. 1	Wellington	21 —	6
13.	Aug. 5	Wanganui	9 —	6
14.	Aug. 8	Taranaki	15 —	3
15.	Aug. 11	Manawatu - Horowhenua	26 —	6
16.	Aug. 15	SECOND TEST	8 —	11
17.	Aug. 19	King Country - Counties	25 —	5
18.	Aug. 22	Waikato	14 —	0
19.	Aug. 25	Wairarapa - Bush	37 —	11
20.	Aug. 29	THIRD TEST	8 —	22
21.	Sept. 2	New Zealand Juniors	29 —	9
22.	Sept. 5	New Zealand Maoris	12 —	6
23.	Sept. 9	Thames Valley - Bay of Plenty	26 —	24
24.	Sept. 12	North Auckland	35 —	13
25.	Sept. 19	FOURTH TEST	9 —	6

Won 20, lost 5.

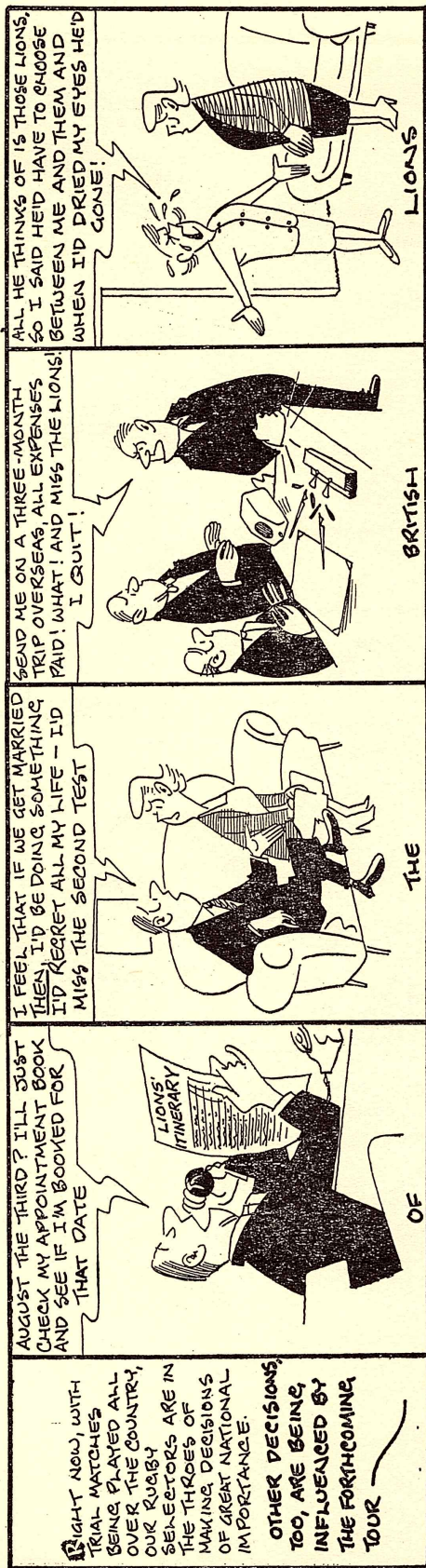


Our enthusiasm for Rugby football is a matter for amazement to overseas visitors. While referring to us as addicts, fanatics or maniacs may not be quite accurate, there are some amongst us who do consider that Rugby takes precedence before all else. . . .

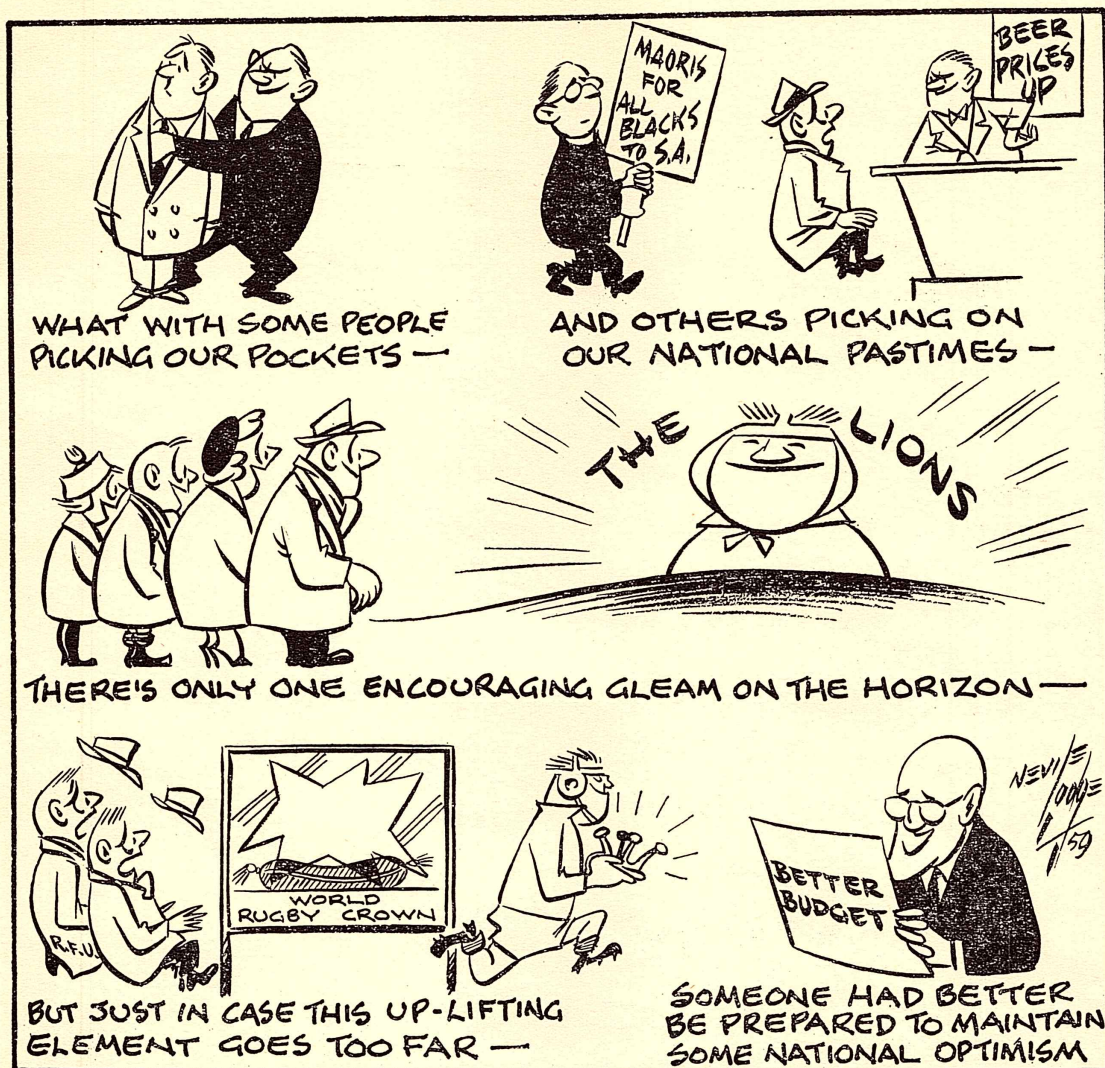


"I HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS
ALL THE TIME NOW - I CALL IT
'LIFE WITH THE LIONS'!"

NEV/E
10/11/59



However, crazy or otherwise, we would not be silly enough to engage in a campaign without planning ahead.



Even the possibility of defeat was not overlooked and even in preparing for the worst we hoped for the best. . . .

There was one attempt, however, to sabotage our effort by outlawing one of our most potent weapons, the ruck—but common sense prevailed and it was retained in our arsenal. . . .



"I'M JOLLY GLAD THE RUGBY UNION
DIDN'T DECIDE TO PUT A STOP TO US
DOING THIS SORT OF THING, AREN'T
YOU?"

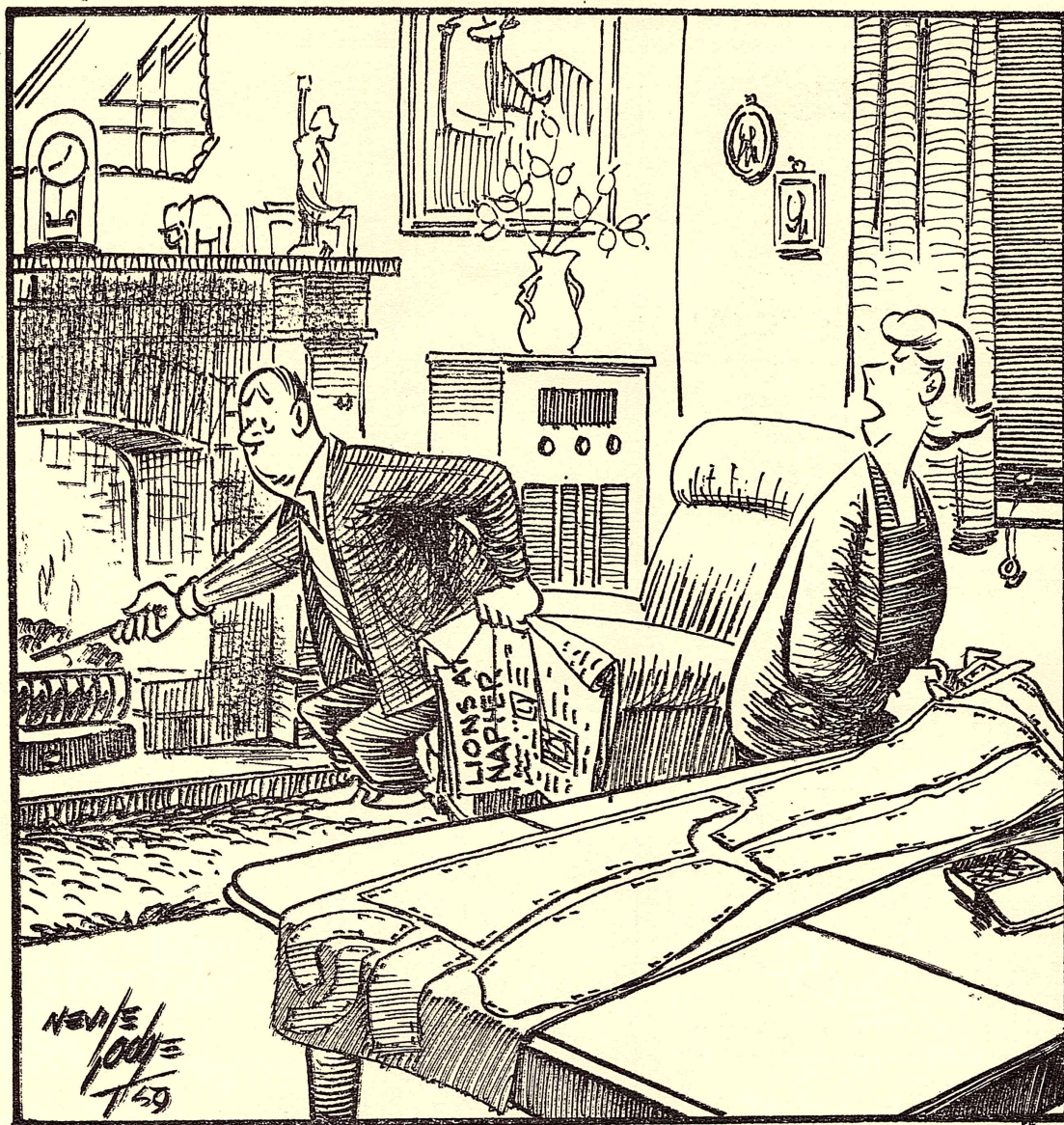
TRAINING
SCHEDULE



NEV/1009/T/59



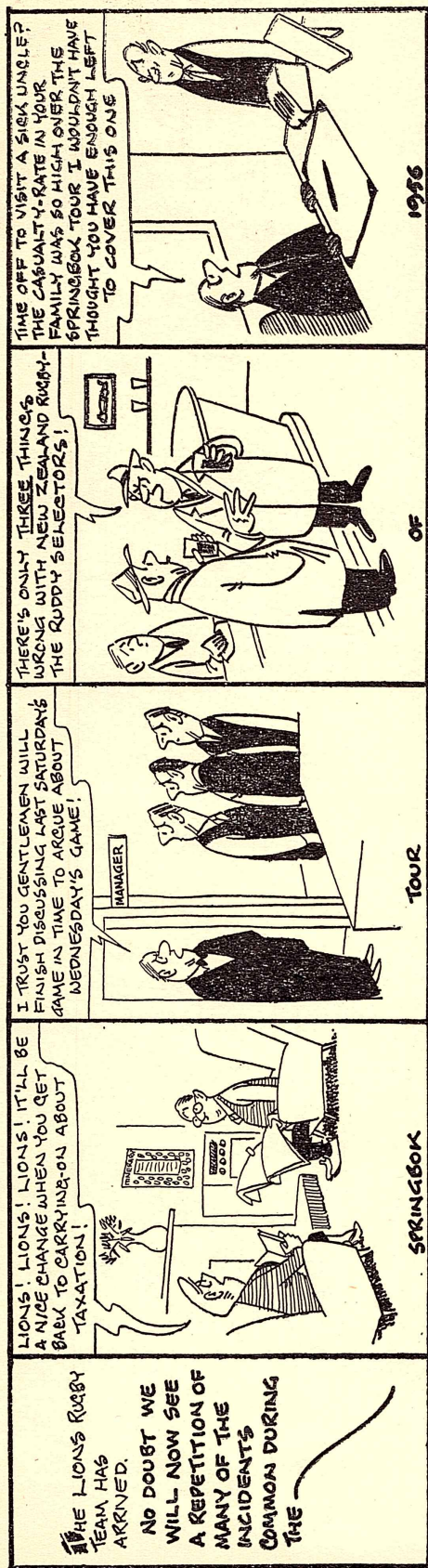
It appeared that the opposition, too, were being fairly serious and taking every precaution to have their invasion force at full strength. Despite their efforts they suffered two casualties in their Australian campaign and were below strength...



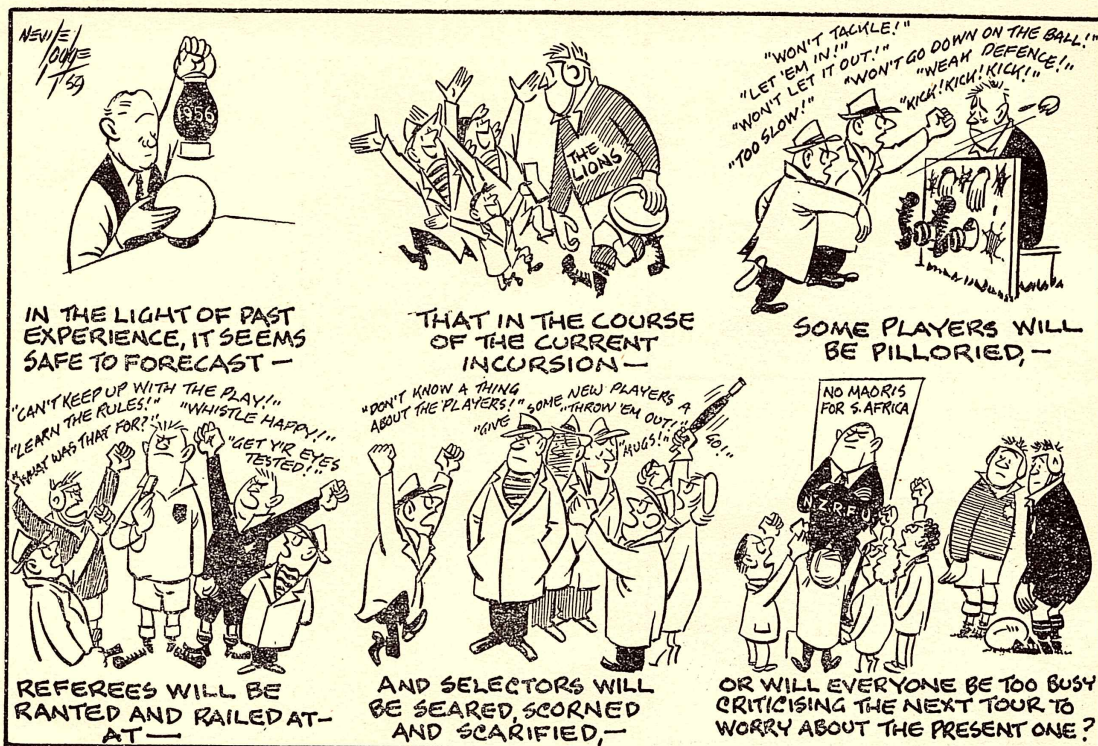
"Now that that team's arrived, I hope I'm not going to have to put up with you carrying-on about Dr Craven for the next three months, like last time."

... when they arrived in New Zealand. ...

This eagerly awaited arrival was greeted with glad cries across the country, but the minority (possibly the sane few) still concerned themselves with domestic matters ...



... and these background noises had some louder echoes.



At this juncture I thought it wise to initiate the tyros amongst us into the normal procedure with these tours.

I make no excuse for omitting shoulder pads as they had not hitherto been complained of, but it is now usual for us to find that every touring team has something new to teach us.

And then the tour was on, and the lion bit off a very tasty piece for a start—52 points to Hawke's Bay's 12.





"Listening to the opening of Parliament, are you? And I suppose that's Mr Holy-oake I can hear shouting 'Pass Out' above the cheering?"

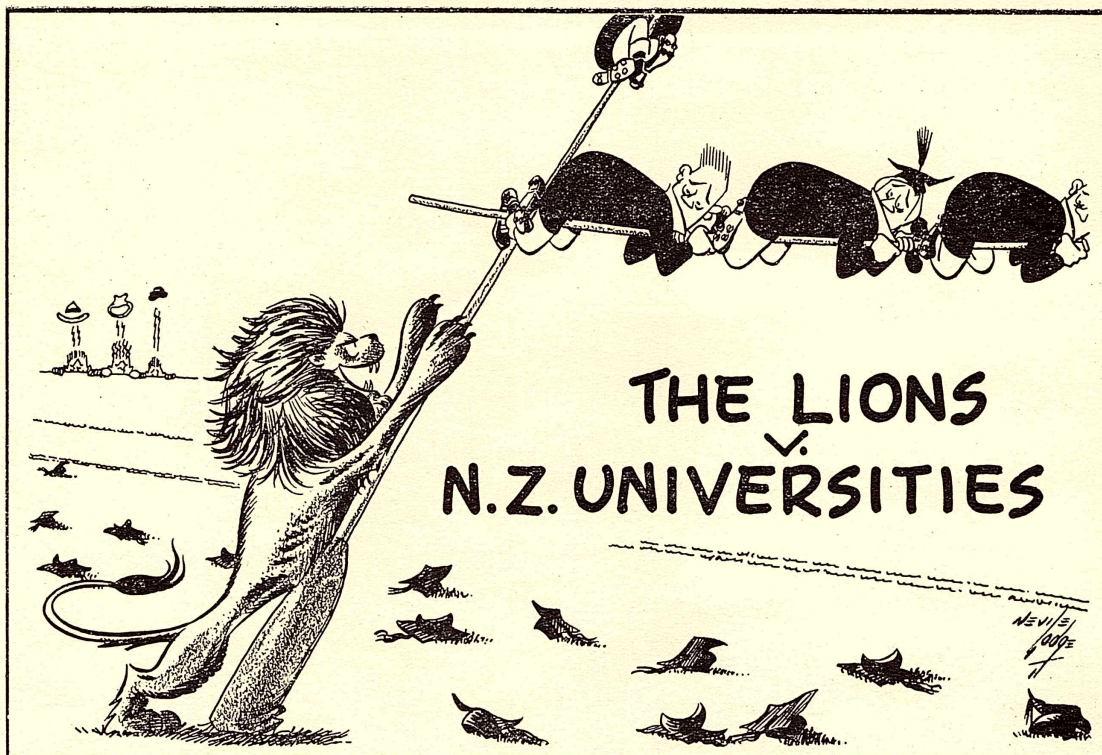
But such an overwhelming start could not reduce our enthusiasm, and our interest in the second match was not to be diverted by minor events like the Opening of Parliament. . . .

With East Coast - Poverty Bay beaten, but by no means overpowered, 23-14, the first big game arrived. Quite a few of us thought we might see the first Lions' defeat, but Auckland found the five point gap in the score just a bit too much to bridge.



"DOES THE HANGER GO
WITH THE SHIRT, CHUM?"

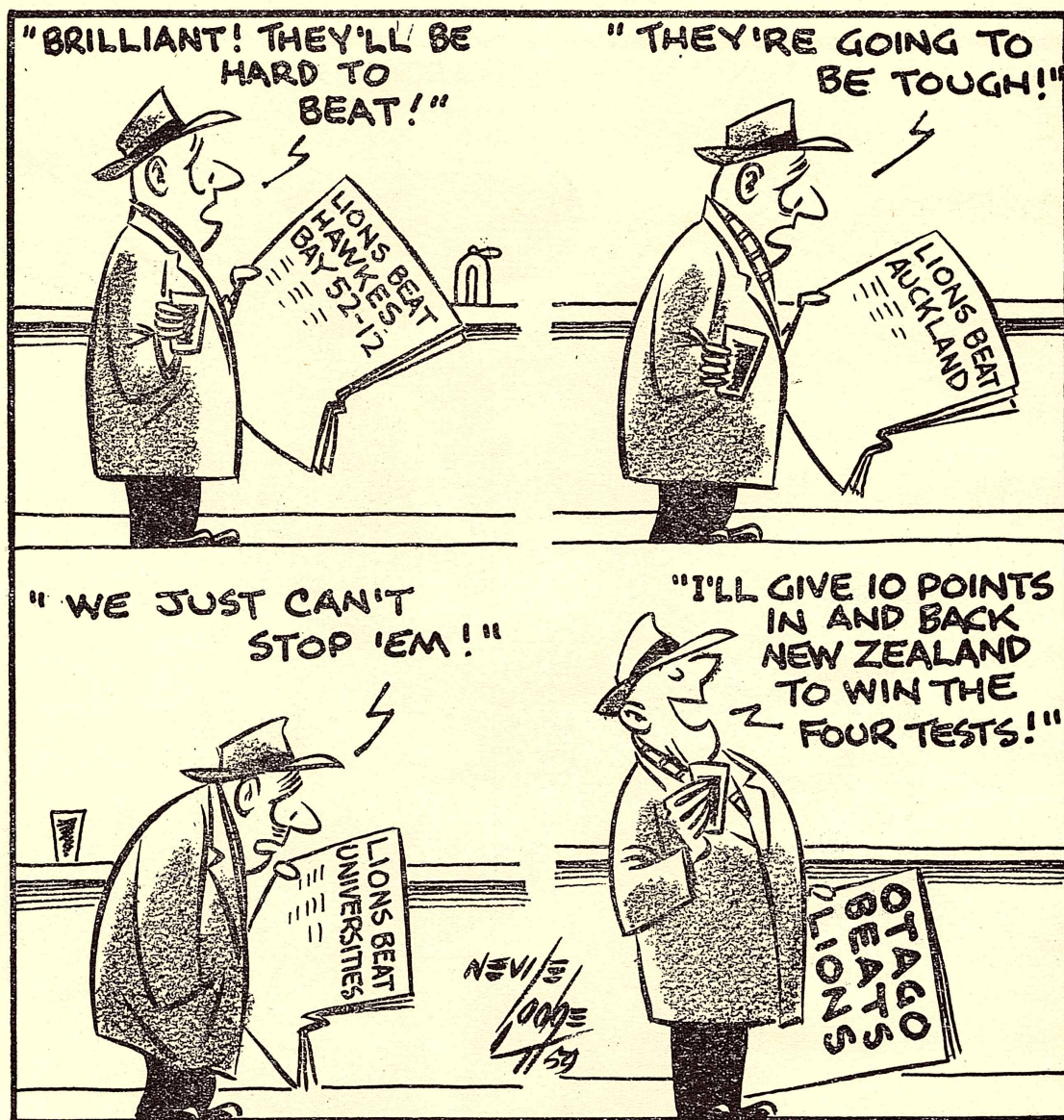
NEW E
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The Lions then proceeded to the South Island and took the honours against the New Zealand Universities, 25-13.

While the going had not been particularly soft, the tourists encountered a really prickly proposition in Otago. . . .

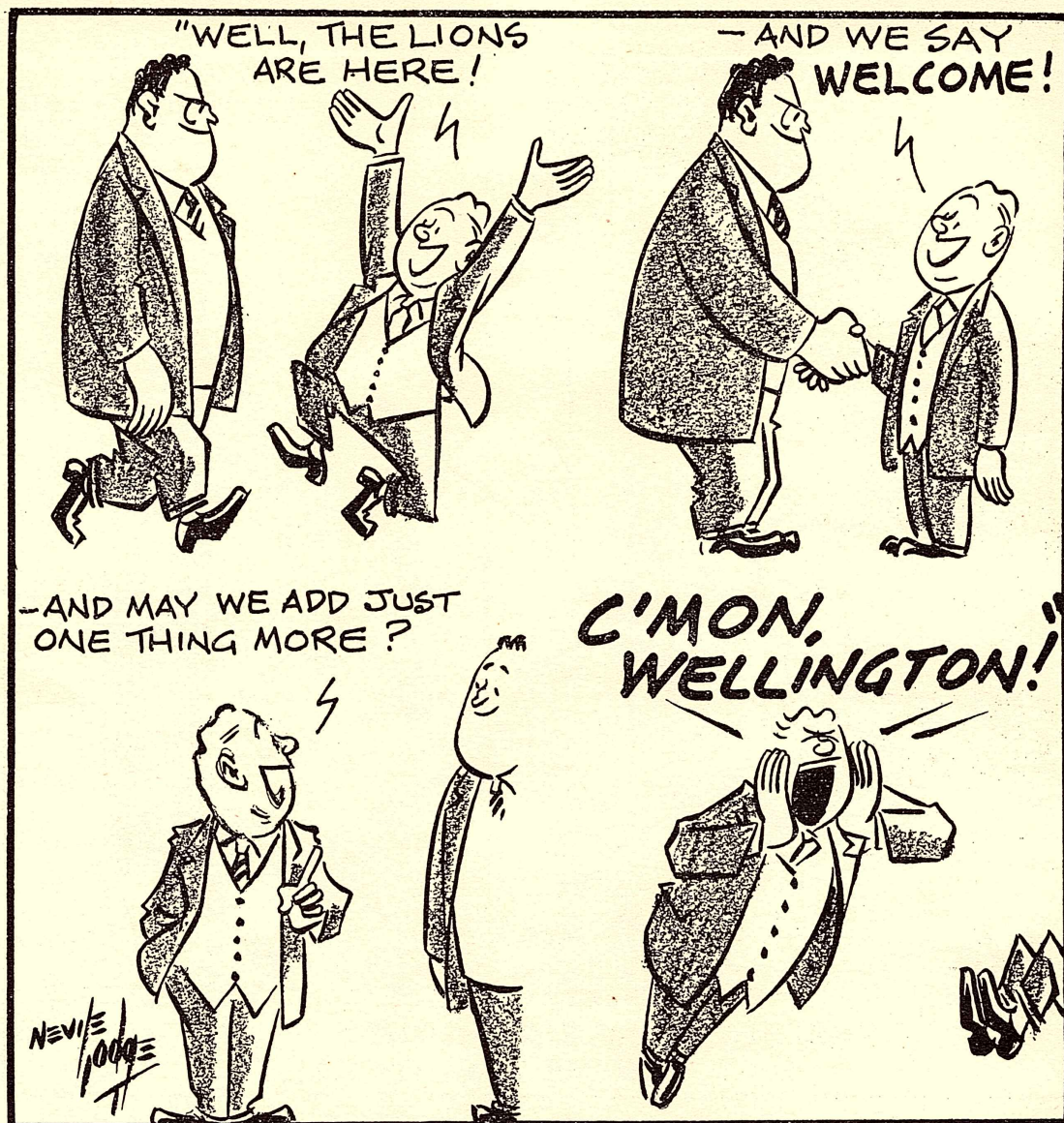




This 26-8 victory to the deep South did much to restore the flagging spirits of some faint hearts, and even victories over South Canterbury - Mid-Canterbury - North Otago (21-11) and Southland who did not come up to expectations and lost 11-6, did not prevent us facing the First Test with some optimism (after all weren't the Lions weakened by injuries?).

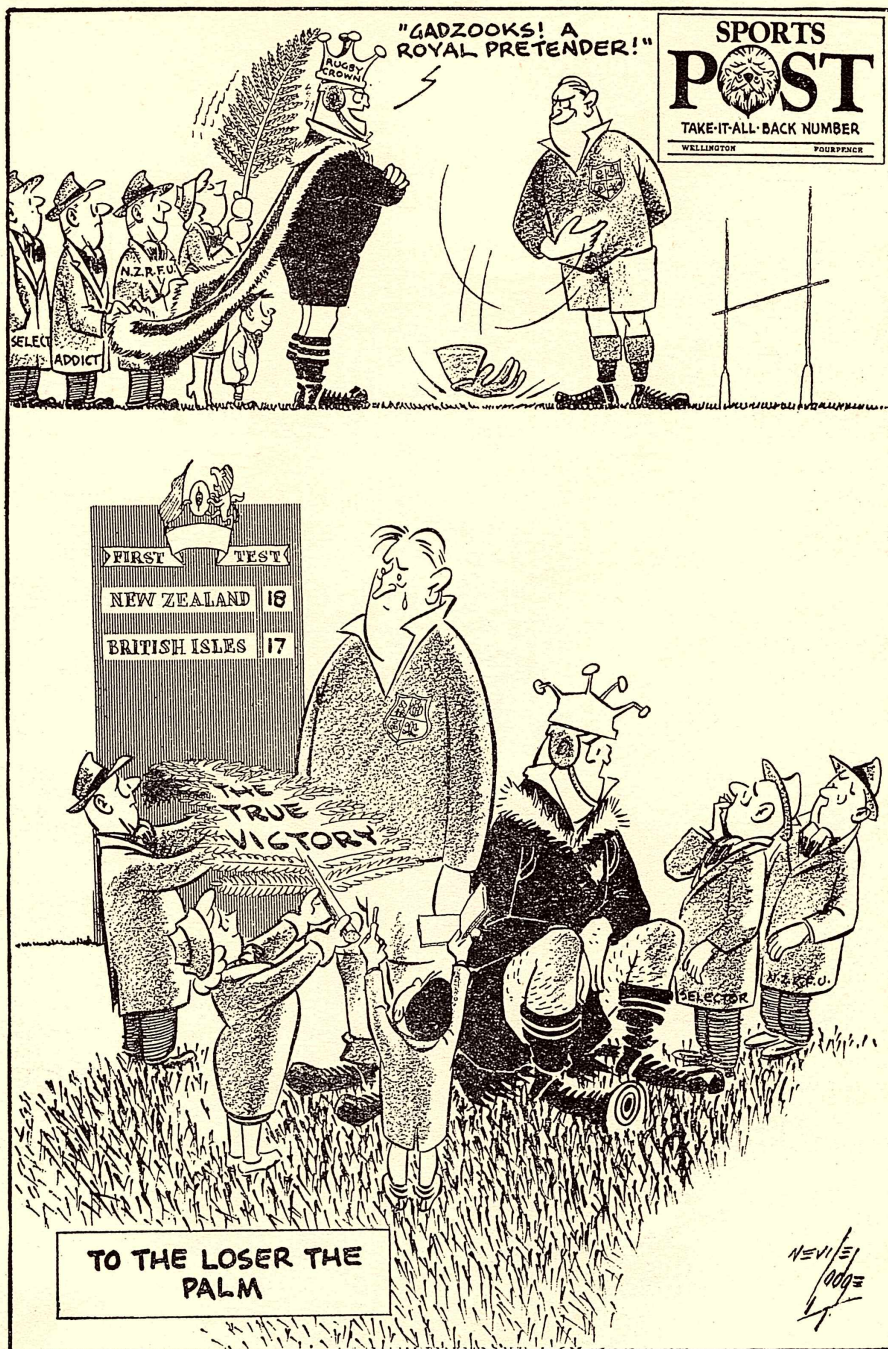


Having suffered their last defeat by a provincial team at the hands of Canterbury the tourists then went on to put up the last of their record-breaking scores—64–5 against Marlborough - Nelson - Golden Bay - Motueka, but the tour was to continue as a record-breaker as far as crowds and cash were concerned.



With the Lions in Wellington to tackle the local side, I made an effort to rouse our team, and who knows, perhaps if I hadn't their loss would have been greater.

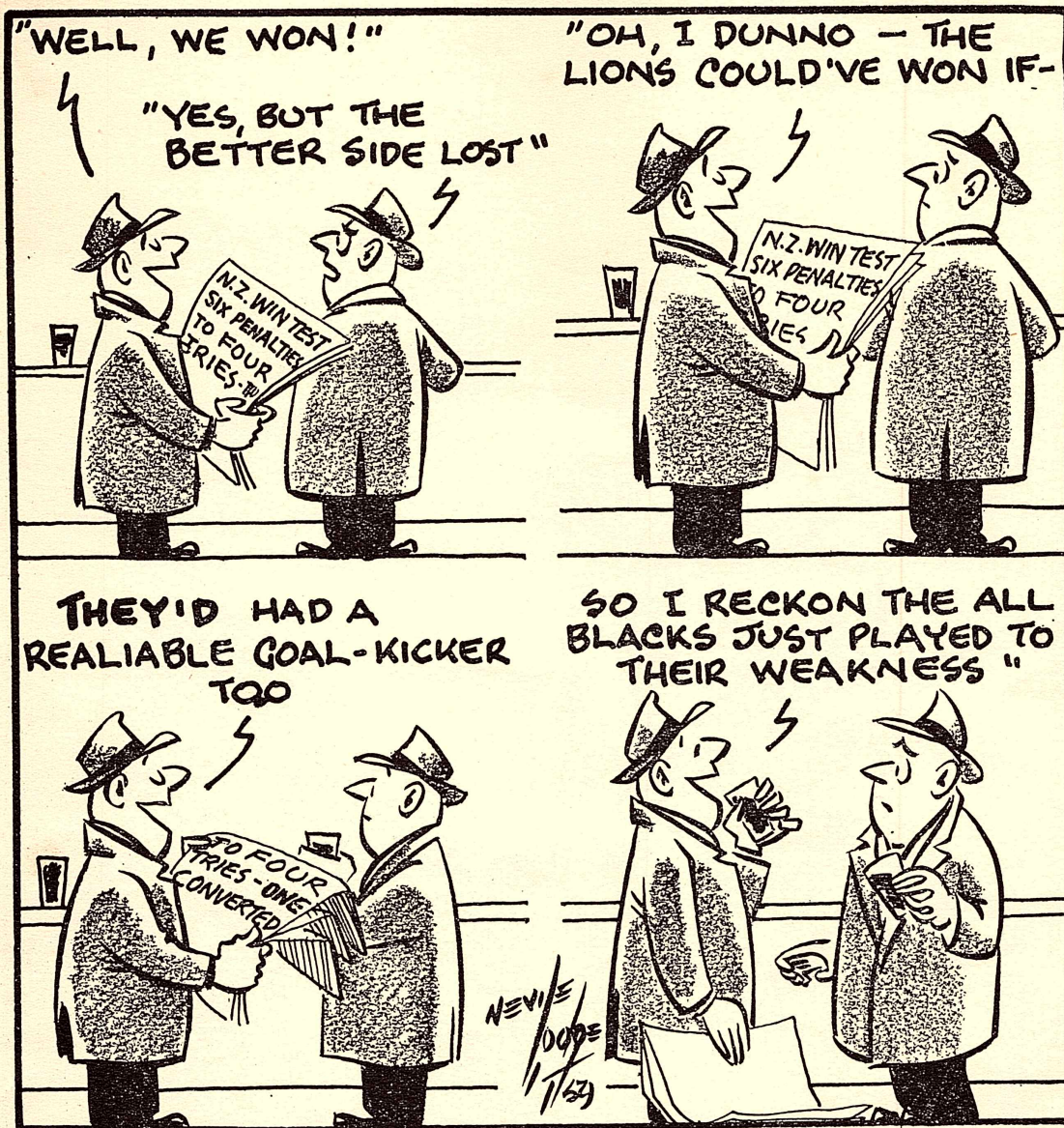




And win we did. . . .

But there was little elation amongst even the most ardent of us—after all it had not been the Lions' strongest team and only the kicking of D. B. Clarke had won it for us.

So I felt constrained to make a re-appreciation to give a truer picture of the game.



There are some, nevertheless, who maintain that any victory is only achieved by design . . .

. . . and then with record-breaking design the Lions proceeded to undermine West Coast - Buller, 58-3, only to cave in when they met Canterbury. . . .

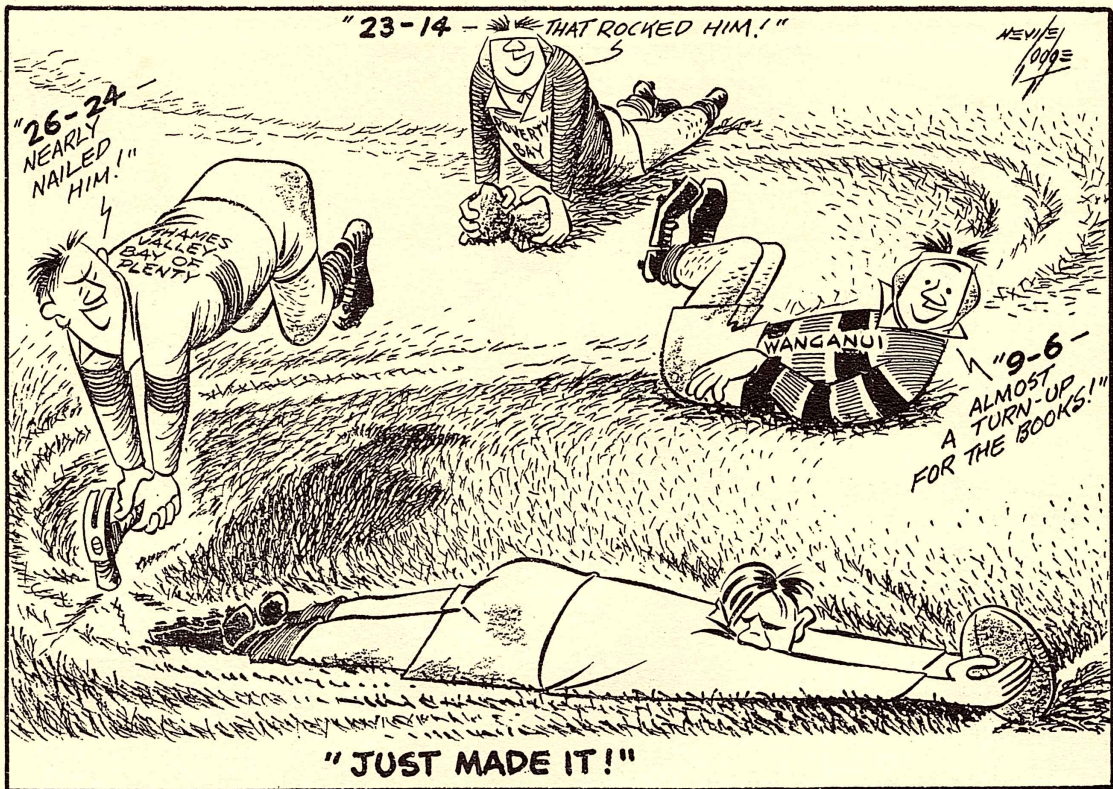


"FIRST THE SPRINGBOKS,
THEN THE LIONS —
MONOTONOUS, ISN'T IT?"

NEVIL
1989
159

PATRONS WITH PORTABLE
RADIOS AT ATHLETIC PARK
LAST SATURDAY, WERE ASKED
TO TURN THEM DOWN AS
THE PLAYERS FOUND THEM
DISTRACTING.





Everyone regarded the next engagement more or less as a breather before the major matter of meeting the Ranfurly Shield holders, but the previously poorly-performed Wanganui set the Lions back on their haunches and the Lions' 9-6 victory could easily have gone the other way.

Here, to balance the teams that provided the Lions with their biggest scores, it is only fair to credit those minor union teams who almost provided the Lions with defeat when they (and we) least expected it, and I include Poverty Bay whose margin of defeat was not so narrow, but who extended the tourists almost as efficiently.

The fact that Taranaki, by virtue of possession of the Shield, was the Premier Province did not deter the tourists. Ferdinand and his followers found the Lions quite uncowed. I must admit that while I consider it most unlikely, there may have been someone in Taranaki who was confused as to just what issues were at stake on that day. . . .





"I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to mix a little realism with my idealism."

In Wellington, however, there were others who, with the Second Test at hand, confused their issues to some purpose. . . .

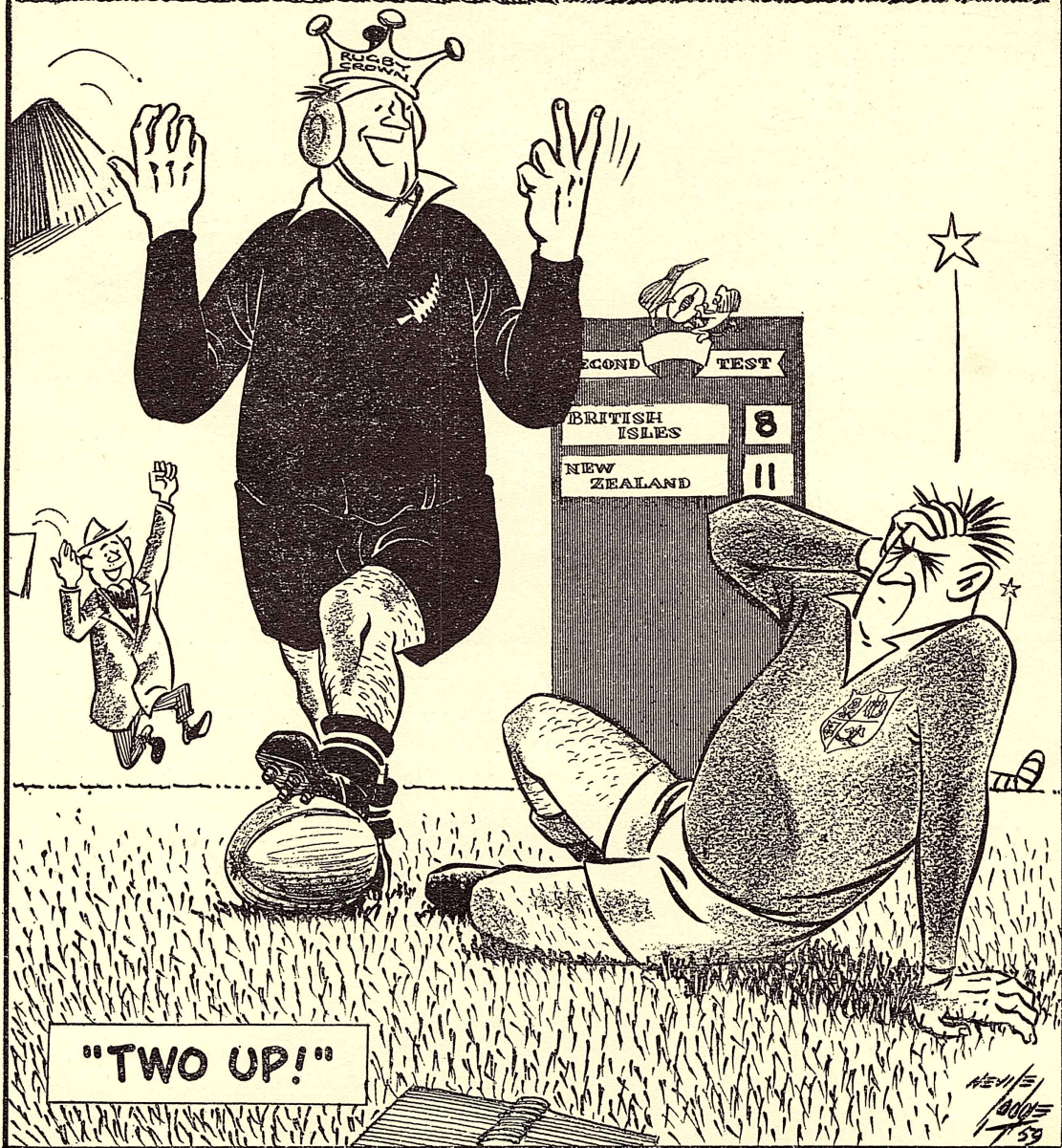
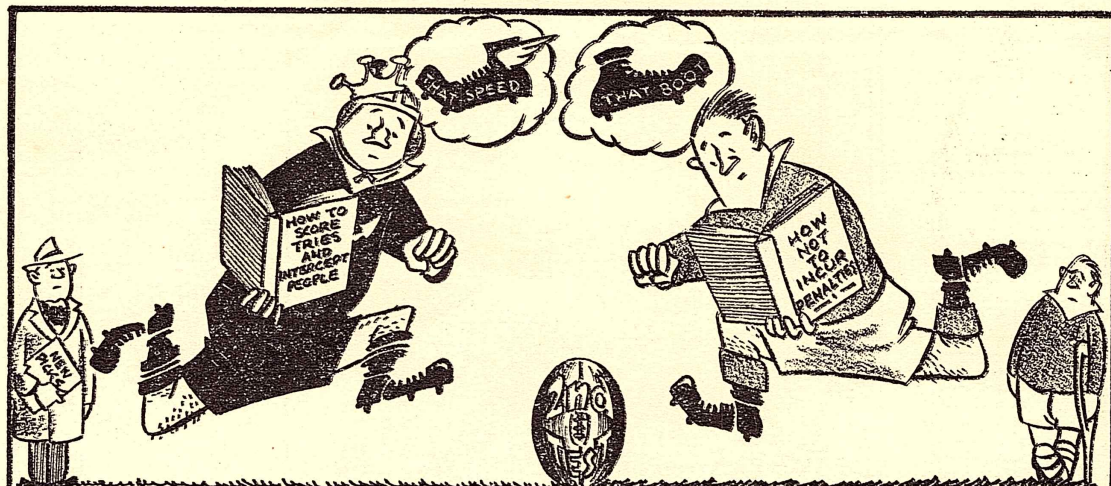


"Right, check again—cap, coat, scarf, rug, rubber cushion, Rugby Weekly, binoculars, race book, radio, sandwiches, thermos, hip flask, glass, ribbon, throat lozenges—"

Having downed Manawatu - Horowhenua 26-6, the Lions arrived back in Wellington for the Second Test . . .

. . . and on the Day, we sallied forth girded and accoutred for the fray. . . .

(It was my intention, had the day been wet, to bring the gentleman home, on the following Monday, soaked through, having forgotten his umbrella, but it was an extremely bright day—which could not be said for our victory.)



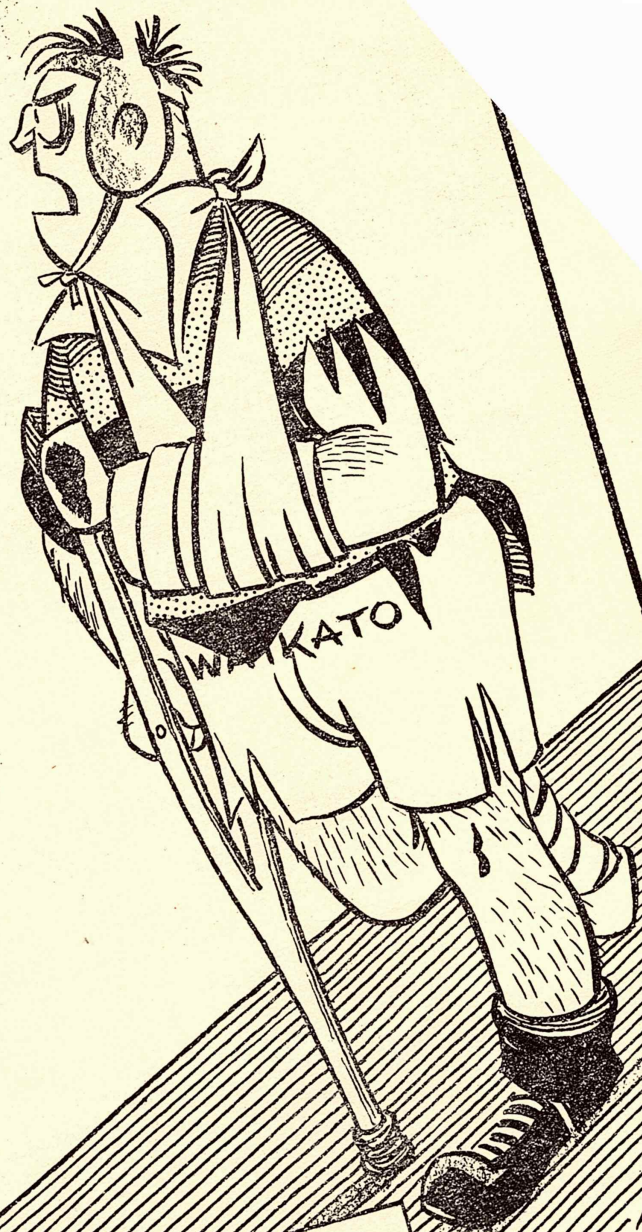


Enthusiasm over our two unconvincing test victories was not great but our determination not to miss a minute of the tour was undiminished and even invaded other codes...

... especially when the next game was against the team who had claimed first blood against the Springboks in 1956. Having taken King Country - Counties in a 25-5 stride, the Lions were now to meet Waikato...



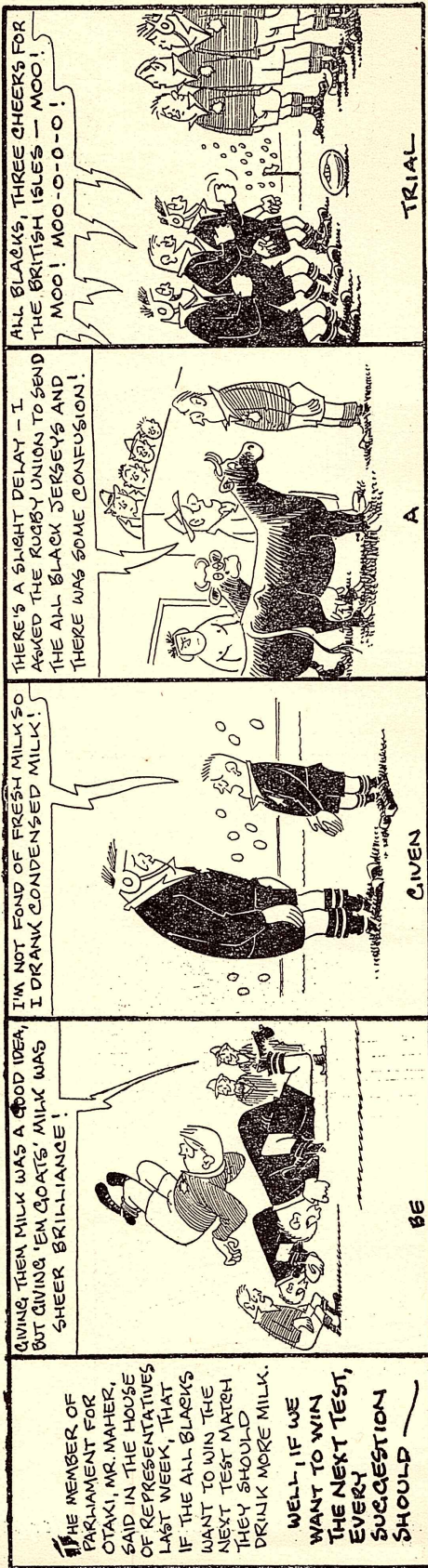
DEFEATED
JUNE 9
1956



THAT SMILE
FACE!"

NEV
10092

But this time Waikato could not even draw a drop of blood and went down 14-nil.



Still perturbed at the apparent failure of the All Blacks to perform well, suggestions were being made in all quarters to improve the team for the Third Test, for which the tourists were now proceeding to Christchurch, taking time out to beat Wairarapa - Bush 37-11, on the way. . . .

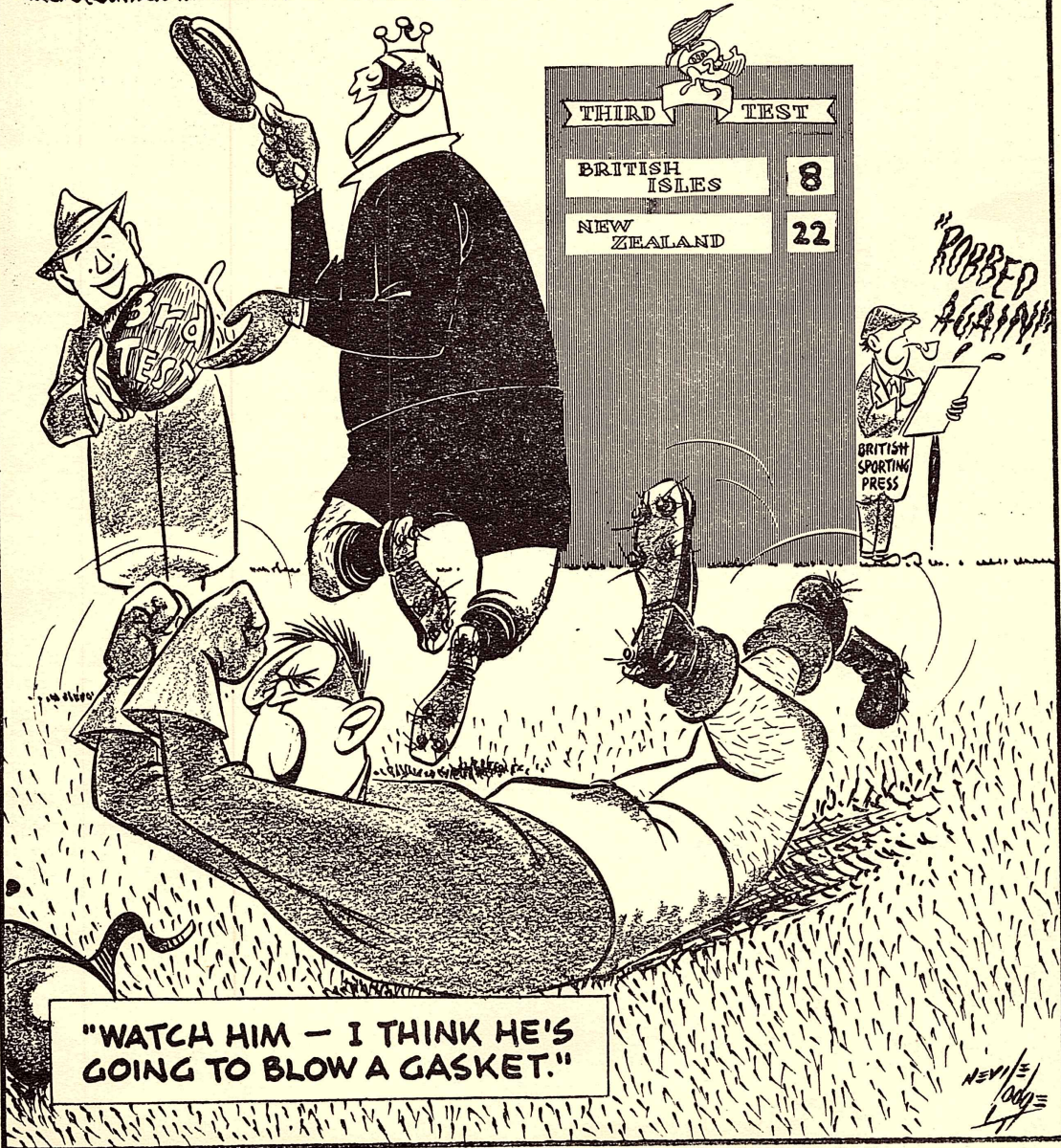
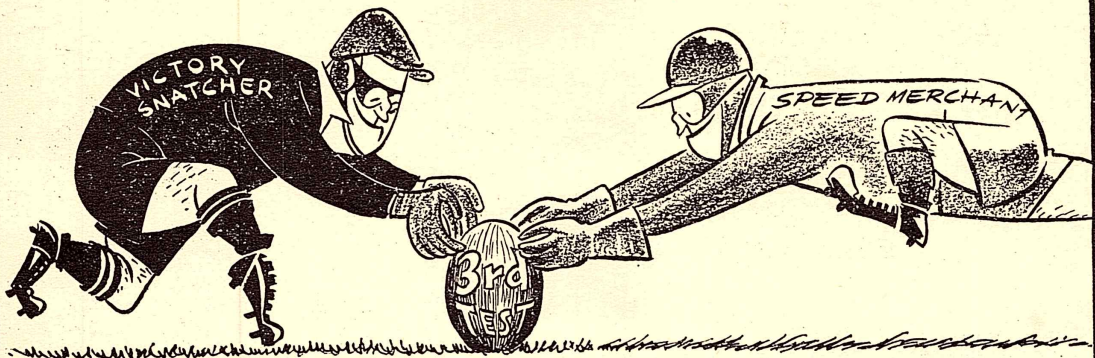
Even on the home front it was realised that while lesser games should not be given preferential treatment—

major and crucial matches should . . .

"I don't think Bert's enthusiasm for going up to Taranaki to see us take the Ranfurly Shield is shared by his wife."



"Well, it looks as though she's agreed to let him go down to Christchurch for the Test."



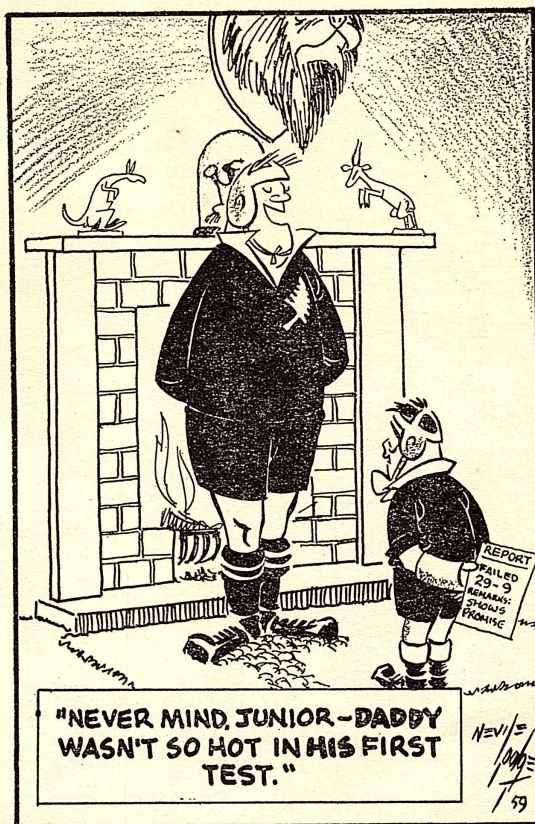


... and with such a game to discuss, it seemed unthinkable that anyone should not be interested ...

... for here, at last, with the Lions at full strength for once and public opinion strongly favouring a victory for them, they were well and truly overpowered.

In fairness to the British Press they did not squawk and were large in their praise—but then the whole game went against prediction. ...

Although they had lost the rubber to New Zealand, the Lions had no intention of letting up and demonstrated this by outplaying the New Zealand Juniors 29-9 . . .



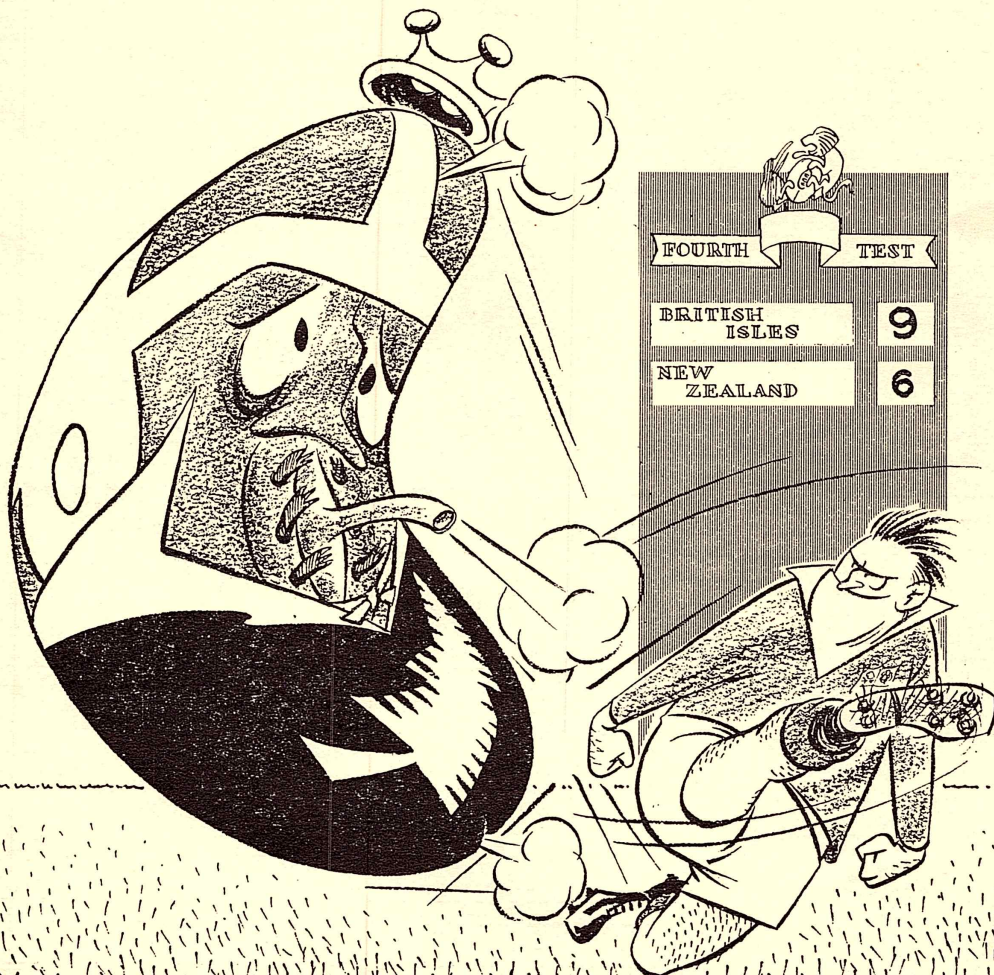
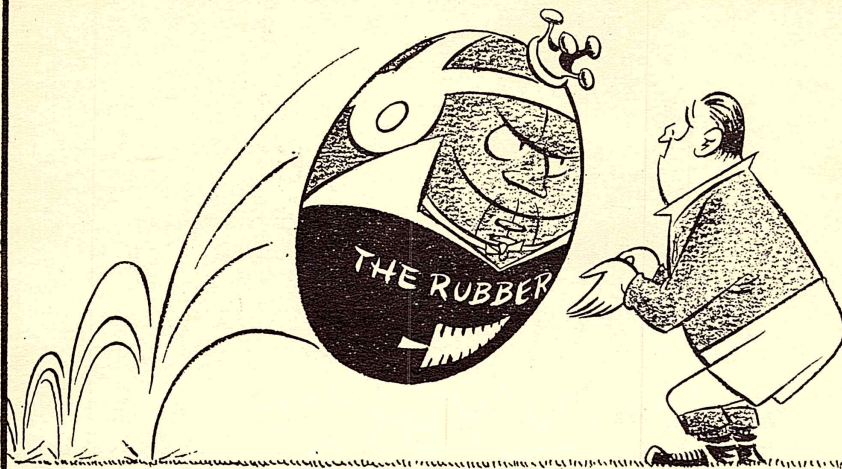
... and out-kicking the New Zealand Maoris 12-6. . . .



"Suits me to take 'em off—I was only wearing 'em so I wouldn't hurt anyone when I tackled 'em."

Then came their narrow defeat of Thames Valley - Bay of Plenty, after which they proceeded north to topple North Auckland 35-13 in the final provincial game of the tour.

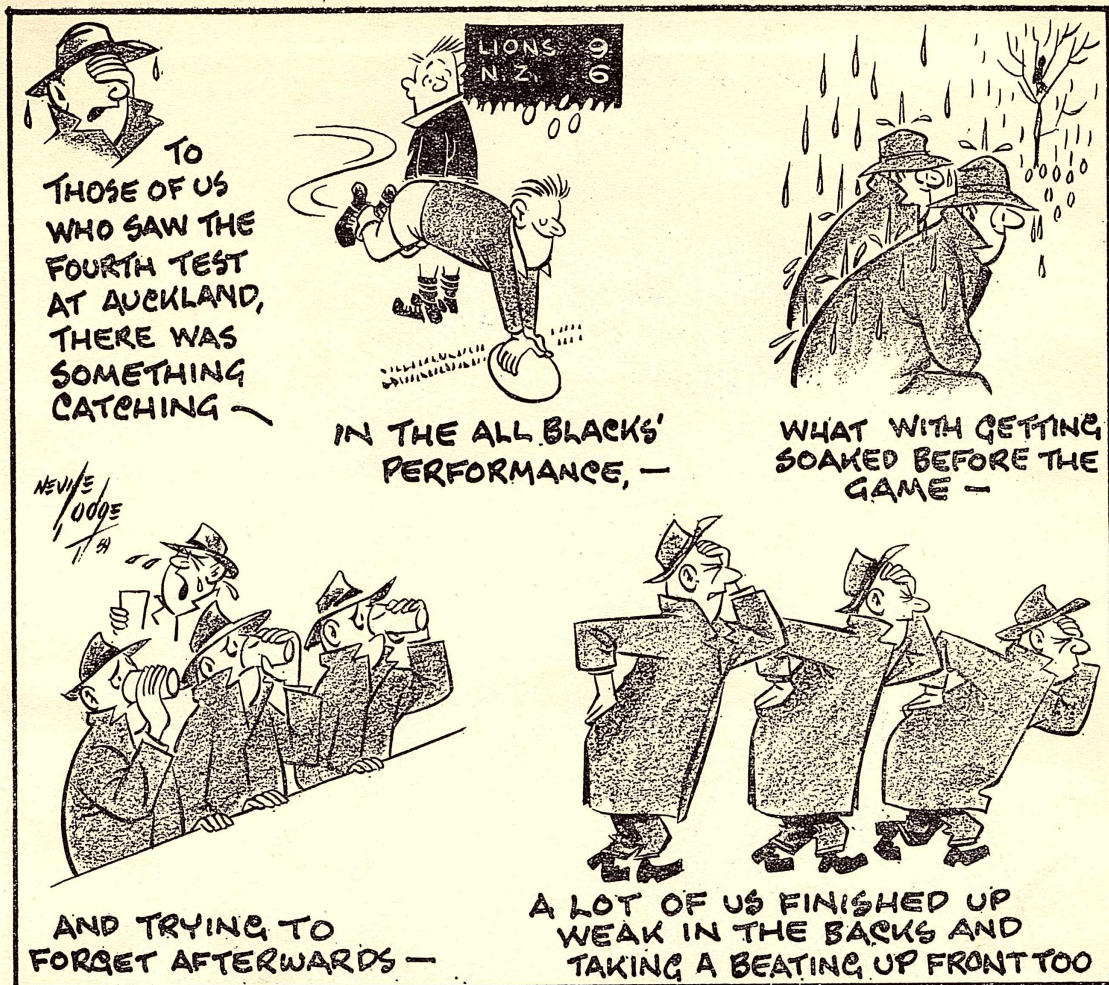
In the week's rest before the final Test, Mr Wilson, the Lions' manager, reiterated his protest at the use of protective padding. But it did seem fair, in the light of all the injuries and replacements the British Team had received, that we also should be given the same opportunity of using reinforcements. . . . And so to the Last Test—and the first test victory of a British Isles team over us since the First Test in 1930. . . .



FOURTH TEST	
BRITISH ISLES	9
NEW ZEALAND	6

REBOUND

EX 11/5
1000
1/50

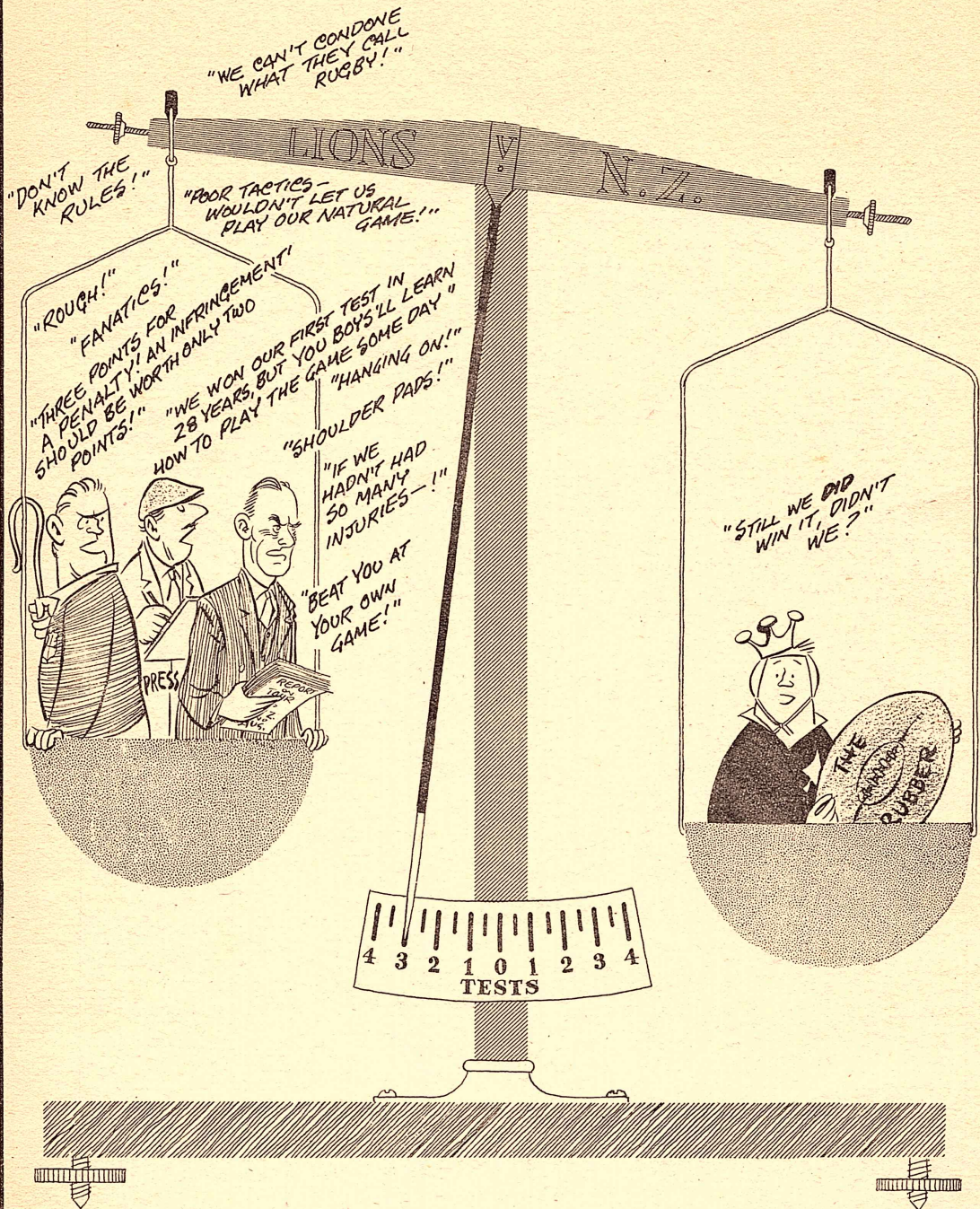


To many who thought that the Lions should have won at least the First Test, their win was a good result, to others who know the football New Zealand is capable of it was disappointing. On the day we were well beaten.

Finally, through the course of the Tour it seemed to me that our Rugby was being belittled more and more until with our ultimate defeat in *one* test we were reduced to a second-rate power.

Well, this is intended to be a humorous book so I shall say no more except to remind you that Rugby football is the one international sport in which New Zealand has excelled, that it is a sport in which we can continue to excel, and that I for one refuse now to write (or should it be "draw") it down.

TAKE POST-TOUR COMMENT,
ADD COMMENT CULLED DURING
TOUR AND ASSESS —



THE FINAL WEIGHING-UP

KINGS OF RUGBY

TERRY McLEAN on the 1959 LIONS

The Rugby Crown, insubstantial symbol of world supremacy, remains with New Zealand. The 1959 tour of the British Lions, a tour which roused New Zealand Rugby enthusiasts to unequalled heights of fervour, saw the visitors downed 3—1 in the test series. Statistically a convincing victory to New Zealand, but morally...?

Terry McLean, touring correspondent with the team, saw the Lions in action in their every match in Australia and New Zealand. Travelling with the players, he came to know them as friends as well as footballers. Measuring the tour against the several others he has covered (1950 Lions, 1953-54 All Blacks, 1956 Springboks, etc.), and the players against the known and newly blooded New Zealanders, McLean brought an unequalled experience of Rugby reporting to bear upon these matches which dominated thought and talk in the New Zealand winter of 1959.

Kings of Rugby is much more than a match-

by-match record which begins with the Lions romping away to victory at Napier on 20th June and ends with their domination of the All Blacks in the Fourth Test at Auckland. Terry McLean wrote by far the greater part of this book after the tumult and shouting had died. He gives the contemplative summing-up of the tour that is so necessary for a balanced view, his aim being to write the best possible book, one that would be valued in years to come.

Rugby readers know from his earlier books (*Bob Stuart's All Blacks*, *The Battle for the Rugby Crown*, *Great Days in New Zealand Rugby*, etc.), that Terry McLean will give them lively match reports, straight-from-the-shoulder comment, tactical conclusions of importance, and engaging pen portraits—in other words, a complete, honest and high readable account of the tour. The result is THE TOP SPORTING BOOK OF THE YEAR

18s. 6d.

ALL BLACKS AND LIONS

J. M. WALLACE on RUGBY TODAY

If the future of New Zealand Rugby football is a matter for serious national concern—and there are at least half a million people who would argue that it is—this book is a compelling contribution to the literature of the game.

Arising as it does from an unusual experience of its techniques and tactics, *All Blacks and Lions* does what few Rugby books have attempted to do; it points the way to a new attitude to the game—a change of heart as far as New Zealand Rugby is concerned, and the improvement of some aspects of play in the British Isles.

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The book illustrates a remarkable memory for notable incidents and matches, a keen appreciation of the subtler skills of great teams and players—especially in the backs, and a knowledge of the game based upon post-war play in British and New Zealand teams from the club level to the international.

New Zealanders will find that British precepts and players can contribute much to their enjoyment of the game, and this has undeniably been the main concern of the author. But British readers will find its interpretation of New Zealand's Rugby success of equal interest and value. For all that *All Blacks and Lions* is provocative and critical, it is constructive in its thinking—a young man's book written in modesty and honesty for everyone who plays or watches Rugby. Lavishly illustrated with diagrams and photographs.

18s. 6d.

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